

Serial No. 10/015,935

Docket No.: KCC-16,727

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable absorbent garment having a longitudinal length defined between a front waist edge and a back waist edge, comprising:

a chassis including an absorbent composite structure, the absorbent composite structure comprising an absorbent assembly positioned between a bodyside liner and an outer cover, the chassis further including two front side panels and two back side panels, wherein at least each of the front side panels or at least each of the back side panels is permanently bonded to and extends transversely beyond an associated linear side edge of an outermost layer of the absorbent composite structure;

a waist opening and a pair of leg openings defined by the chassis;

a waist end edge defined by each side panel; and

a targeted elastic material in at least each of the front side panels or at least each of the back side panels, the targeted elastic material of the at least each of the front side panels or at least each of the back side panels including at least one high tension zone aligned with the waist opening, at least one low tension zone, and a spacer zone between the at least one high tension zone and each waist end edge.

2. (Original) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 1, further comprising a high tension zone aligned with each leg opening.

3. (Withdrawn) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the targeted elastic material includes at least two high tension zones aligned with the waist opening.

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4. (Withdrawn) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 3, further comprising a high tension zone aligned with each leg opening.

5. (Withdrawn) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 3, further comprising at least two high tension zones aligned with each leg opening.

6. (Original) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the spacer zone comprises a second low tension zone.

7. (Withdrawn) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the spacer zone comprises a no tension zone.

8. (Original) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the spacer zone has a longitudinal length in a range from about 0.2% to about 5% of the longitudinal length of the garment.

9. (Original) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the spacer zone and the at least one high tension zone have a combined longitudinal length less than about 15% of the length of the garment.

10. (Original) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the targeted elastic material comprises a targeted elastic laminate including the low and high tension zones and the spacer zone;

the low tension zone including a plurality of elastomeric first filaments, the low tension zone having a first basis weight;

the high tension zone including a plurality of elastomeric second filaments, the high tension zone having a second basis weight higher than the first basis weight;

the laminate further including a facing layer bonded to at least a first side of the low tension zone and a first side of the high tension zone.

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11. (Original) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 10, wherein the facing layer is liquid-impermeable.

12. (Original) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the targeted elastic material comprises a targeted elastic laminate including the low and high tension zones and the spacer zone;

the low tension zone including a plurality of elastomeric first filaments, the first filaments including a first elastomeric polymer composition;

the high tension zone including a plurality of elastomeric second filaments, the second filaments including a second elastomeric polymer composition;

the laminate further including a facing material bonded to at least a first side of the low tension zone and a first side of the high tension zone.

13. (Currently Amended) The disposable absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the targeted elastic material ~~abuts each waist end edge of each of the~~ at least front side panels or at least back side panels abuts the waist end edge of the associated side panel.

Claims 14 – 37 (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A disposable garment having a longitudinal length defined between a front waist edge and a back waist edge, comprising:

a chassis including an absorbent composite structure, the absorbent composite structure comprising an absorbent assembly positioned between a bodyside liner and an outer cover, the chassis further including two front side panels and two back side panels, wherein at least each of the front side panels or at least each of the back side panels is permanently bonded to and extends transversely beyond an associated linear side edge of an outermost layer of the absorbent composite structure and defining a waist opening and a pair of leg openings;

a waist end edge defined by each side panel; and

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a targeted elastic material in at least each of the front side panels or at least each of the back side panels, the targeted elastic material of the at least each of the front side panels or at least each of the back side panels including at least one high tension zone, at least one low tension zone, and a spacer zone between the at least one high tension zone and each waist end edge;

wherein the targeted elastic material ~~abuts each waist end edge of each~~ of the at least front side panels or at least back side panels abuts the waist end edge of the associated side panel.

39. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 38, wherein the spacer zone comprises a second low tension zone.

40. (Withdrawn) The disposable garment of Claim 38, wherein the spacer zone comprises a no tension zone.

41. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 38, wherein the spacer zone has a longitudinal length in a range from about 0.2% to about 5% of the longitudinal length of the garment.

42. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 38, wherein the spacer zone has a longitudinal length in a range from about 0.6% to about 2% of the longitudinal length of the garment.

43. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 38, wherein the spacer zone and the at least one high tension zone have a combined longitudinal length less than about 15% of the length of the garment.

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44. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 38, wherein the targeted elastic material comprises a targeted elastic laminate including the low and high tension zones and the spacer zone;

the low tension zone including a plurality of elastomeric first filaments, the low tension zone having a first basis weight;

the high tension zone including a plurality of elastomeric second filaments, the high tension zone having a second basis weight higher than the first basis weight;

the laminate further including a facing layer bonded to at least a first side of the low tension zone and a first side of the high tension zone.

45. (Original) The disposable garment of Claim 38, wherein the targeted elastic material comprises a targeted elastic laminate including the low and high tension zones and the spacer zone;

the low tension zone including a plurality of elastomeric first filaments, the first filaments including a first elastomeric polymer composition;

the high tension zone including a plurality of elastomeric second filaments, the second filaments including a second elastomeric polymer composition;

the laminate further including a facing material bonded to at least a first side of the low tension zone and a first side of the high tension zone.

46. (Withdrawn) A method of making garments having at least one spacer zone, comprising:

providing a continuous product assemblage;

positioning targeted elastic strips on the continuous product assemblage, the targeted elastic strips comprising a first zone and at least two second zones, the first zone corresponding to the at least one spacer zone and the first zone having lower tension than the second zones;

cutting the continuous product assemblage along a cut line located within the first zone to form a plurality of discrete garments.

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47. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 46, wherein each spacer zone is located between one of the second zones and the cut line.

48. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 46, wherein the continuous product assemblage is provided in the machine direction.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 46 in which the first zone coincides with an edge of the garment.

50. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 46 in which the targeted elastic strips are side panel strips.

51. (Withdrawn) A garment made according to the method of Claim 46.

52. (Withdrawn) A disposable garment comprising:
a body, the body including a targeted elastic material;
at least one edge; and
at least one spacer zone aligned with the at least one edge;
wherein the targeted elastic material abuts the at least one edge.

53. (Withdrawn) The disposable garment of Claim 52, wherein the body comprises a low tension zone and at least one high tension zone aligned with the at least one edge.

54. (Withdrawn) The disposable garment of Claim 52, wherein the at least one spacer zone is located between the at least one high tension zone and the at least one edge.